California GARDEN

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FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1964
Vol. 55 - No. 1 35 cents

CAMELLIAS—LARGE and SMALL

BABYLON TO BONSAI—Part 2

FLOWER SHOWS

1964

February		
8- 9	CAMELLIA SHOW	CONFERENCE BLDG., BALBOA PARK S. D. Camellia Society
22-23	CAMELLIA SHOW	L.A. COUNTY ARBORETUM ARCADIA Temple City Camellia Society
29-Mar. 1	CAMELLIA SHOW	DESCANSO GARDENS, LA CANADA L.A. Camellia Council
April		
4- 5	ORCHID SHOW	CONFERENCE BLDG., BALBOA PARK S.D. County Orchid Society
4- 5	Imperial Beach Garden Club	
11-12	ROSE SHOW	ELECTRIC BLDG., BALBOA PARK S.D. Rose Society
18-19	FLOWER SHOW	SPRECKELS PARK, CORONADO Coronado Floral Ass'n.
25	Santa Maria Valley	WOMAN'S CLUB, RAMONA
25-26	IRIS SHOW	LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM in ARCADIA. So. Cal. Iris Society
May		
1- 2	Grossmont Center Garden Club	GROSSMONT CENTER
2- 3	IRIS SHOW	FLORAL BLDG., BALBOA PARK S.D. & Imperial Counties Iris Society
9-10	Fallbrook Garden Club	
16-17	Poway Valley Garden Club	
August		
1- 2	DAHLIA SHOW	CONFERENCE BLDG., BALBOA PARK S.D. County Dahlia Society

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Flower Arranging Classes

Mrs. Roland S. Hoyt, Chairman

296-2757

I. Workshop Classes 10 a.m. Instructor: Mrs. Arthur J. Mitchell
Begins Feb. 4, 1964 First and Third Tuesdays

II. Ikebana Classes 10 a.m. Instructor: Mrs. Ralph Canter
Begins Feb. 2, 1964 Second and Fourth Wednesdays

III. Demonstration 10 a.m. Instructor: Mrs. J. R. Kirkpatrick
Began Jan. 27, 1964 Last Monday of Month

THE COVER

Camellia 'Grand Finale' a new free-flowering 'Lotus' seedling by Harvey Short. A handsome up-standing plant with pointed serrate leaves and a nice habit of presenting its blooms at the center instead of on the edges of the shrubs. The flower buds are rounded bags that show glimpses of yellow tipped stamens which unfold as a full size sunburst. The crepey-white petals around them flounce out to 5 or 6 inches across, puffed in rabbit ears with small petals intermingling at the centers.

CARBON PENCIL SKETCH
by
ALICE M. CLARK

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CALIFORNIA GARDEN

FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1964

VOLUME 55 NO. 1

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Gardener's February and March

This period is a stimulating and rewarding one in California gardens — Spring is here, with all the season promises, just at the time we're enjoying the fruits of our Fall planting. Our permanent plantings of azaleas, poinsettias, camellias, birds of paradise, tea trees, heather and other flowering shrubs are at their best, with spots and masses of color from cyclamen, bulbs, primroses and ground covers of colorful mesembryanthemum. And, of course, bare-root season is still with us.

Planting of bare-root fruit trees and roses often is successful up through the middle of March, weather permitting, now that the growers are refrigerating dormant stock and shipping throughout the season. A few precautions are always in order: keeping the roots moist at all times, watering in with one of the vitamin-hormone solutions, frequent waterings until the plants are well established, and avoiding the use of fresh steer manure in planting. If you don't have fixed notions on the subject, ask the nurseryman to prune back your fruit trees for planting, and don't go into shock when he cuts two-thirds of the wood away.

Pruning and dormant spraying of deciduous fruit trees, berry vines and roses must be done now if you didn't get the job done in January. Remember that the method of pruning different varieties is not the same — best refer to a pruning manual. Your nurseryman can help on the spray to use, including such advice as avoiding lime-sulphur on apricots, and giving peaches a second spraying just as the buds break. Give the trees and vines a mulch and light feeding after pruning, and a heavy fertilization after bloom and the fruit is set.

Now is the time for the last planting of stock, snapdragons, Iceland poppies, cinerarias, calendulas, pansies, violas, larkspur and related cool-weather annuals. And it's the last chance to plant small columbine, delphinium, Shasta daisies and similar perennials for good results next summer and fall — later on it will mean quart and gallon-size plants for results this year. Incidentally, gardeners are successfully planting tulips, daffodils, narcissus, hyacinths and other "fall" bulbs as late as the first of March in recent years, in case you haven't gotten around to it.

Annuals for spring and summer color appear on bedding plant tables at the nurseries this time of the year: zinnias, marigolds, the reliable petunias in many new varieties, asters, dwarf dahlias, cosmos and many others. Dahlia tubers and canna roots (try the new Pfitzer dwarfs), tuberoses for fragrance, begonia tubers and gloxinia seedlings — all tempt the gardener who can see into the months ahead. And the vegetable gardener will find tomatoes in several varieties, bell peppers and hot chili's, lettuce and celery — and everbearing strawberries for gardeners who let packaged strawberry divisions slip by earlier in the year.

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But before any plants can be put in the ground comes the job of soil preparation. Probably more important than the selection and planting of the plants themselves. Because, although in California we can grow almost any plant that grows anywhere in the world, Mother Nature hasn't provided us with soil to grow it in. We simply have to make soil out of the adobe, decomposed granite or hardpan that's here. Incorporation of organic material into native soils improves texture by lightening and aerating the mixture, and makes actual fertile topsoil out of the mixture through formation of humus necessary to support the beneficial soil organisms required by plants. But important plant nutrients still are lacking, thus requiring addition of bonemeal, ammonium phosphate and other organic or inorganic fertilizers to complete the transition from the builder's fill dirt to good growing soil. It's important to dig the mixture in deep — as much as 15 to 18 inches — and leave a transition from the native soil to the good soil mixture. And then equally important to keep up a regular, faithful feeding program throughout the year.

General garden clean-up isn't glamorous but certainly is necessary, and this is the best time to get it out of the way. Possibly the greatest benefit is realized in eliminating the harboring places for insects, diseases, fungii snails, and slugs. The annual clean-up should include odds and ends of pruning and cutting back, renewal of mulches where needed, massive treatment for ants and slugs and snails, ripping out that experimental shrub that's never done well and planting a replacement, removal of weeds and trash both for neatness and to ease maintenance through the coming year, filling in holes and cutting drain channels as needed, and so forth. This is

also the logical point at which to rejuvenate annual and perennial flower beds with quantities of digested sewage sludge, steer, soil conditioner, shredded firbark, bonemeal and fertilizers.

Lawns give the least trouble this time of year since pest and fungus problems aren't severe in cold weather. However, continued light feedings are desirable and this is the time to apply the pre-emergence crabgrass controls now on the market. Incidentally, the disappointed owners of heretofore hybrid bermuda grass lawns shouldn't be too concerned about the wide-spread browning-out of their lawns—it was caused by the unusual combination of weeks of very cold nights and sunny afternoons of very low humidity. Hybrid bermuda lawns will be greening up soon now.

It spite of recent rains it would be unwise to neglect deep watering of trees and large shrubs with deep root systems. Believe it or not, with normal run-off one inch of rain will penetrate adobe soils not more than 8 to 12 inches or even less. So it is easy to see that *several* slow, soaking rains are needed to penetrate deeply. And equally important is the need for leaching alkaline salts from the root zone of plants—we know of one good gardener who gets busy *before* a predicted rain and waters his garden deeply, so that the rain will do its best work in leaching salts from the soil.

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California native plants (and others native to areas of similar climates) are best set out during the rainy season. Frequent irrigation necessary to establish these plants is often fatal during the warm, dry season, but natives are accustomed to our winter rains and take hold quickly and reliably if planted now. This is also a good time to set out citrus and other sub-tropical fruit trees and ornamentals in that the sun is getting warmer and by the time they've recovered from transplant shock the full benefit of the spring surge of growth will be realized. Also, looking to the future, this is the logical time to plant ground covers on any banks or slopes that are eroding badly this rainy season—most covers require a full season to fill in so that you'll prevent erosion next year.

Tropicals and subtropicals often show their resentment at our cold winter nights by this time with yellowing and dropping leaves, shy bloom and generally discouraged appearance. These symptoms can largely be avoided by following a few simple rules. The basic problem is *soil temperature* rather than the cold air—tropicals just aren't adapted to cold soil and the result is that they fall prey to root fungi that work in cold, moist soils, and the remaining roots are functioning at a fraction of normal efficiency. To help the situation: Keep sun-loving tropicals such as citrus, bougainvillea and hibiscus definitely on the dry side through the winter months, in normal years relying only on winter rains for irrigation — the principle being that soil on the dry side will be as much as 20 to 25 degrees warmer than moist soil. Remove all mulches at the base of these plants, allowing the soil to soak up as much warmth as possible from the sun. And over-feed with bloodmeal or chemical fertilizers during the cold soil periods to help the inefficient root system do its job.

Ed Ogden

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CAMELLIA 'ADOLPHE AUDUSSON' VAR.

From the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Bradford, San Diego

CAMELLIAS and GIBBERELLIC ACID

Harvey Short

Harvey Short, Dean of Camellia Consultants, brought out his first seedlings while living in Ramona in 1945. From 1950 on, his hybrids received many recommendations. He continued his work in the Coolidge Nursery at Pasadena for five years following which he was horticulturist at the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino. He is now settled in the La Mesa hills carrying on his hobby of breeding finer camellia hybrids.

THE NEW YEAR 1964 will be buzzing with the current trend of ambitious nature, featuring the results of many experiments now in progress in the several camellia growing zones in the United States. Reports are coming to us from many growers who for the past two years have been making applications with the plant auxin, Gibberellic acid. An auxin is a group of substances which promote plant growth by cell elongation.

Just now many growers are revaluating with interest the many arteries that inject new life into our generally accepted methods of growing fine flowers. In the Southern States, an early fall show in 1963 was probably the first to have predominantly cultured flowers by this method.

Analyzing its apparent success, two or three points of exceptional value were determined. First, the period of bloom is extended. Varieties which normally bloom from February 15 on into the spring, have been induced to bloom as early as November 15th or earlier, providing a blooming period which is twice as long as is typical. Secondly, a fine display of flowers before cold weather is a happy feature for our friends in the South who seem to be in a series of hard freezes. Third, and definitely a most important factor, is that the early blooms avoid flower blight which raises "its ugly head" from January on. Fourth, the general perfection of flowers: many of the mediocre and commonplace types take on added sparkle and beauty with sensational size, unnoticed in the non-treated ones.

This application of Gibberellic Acid is applied in several strengths. The formula developed to 10,000 p.p.m. seems to be the correct medium to develop super flowers. A more dilute solution to be found on the market of about 50 p.p.m. strength responds to a lesser degree in sizing the flower but definitely breaks the flowering cycle to an earlier development.

This is where I might enter the picture with the slight experience I have had this year. I applied the 50 p.p.m. solution on Aug. 20, 1963 to two to three buds per plant of my 175 varieties, early to late varieties included. The treatment consisted of snipping out the growth bud beside the flower bud I wished to treat and applying a light spray of "Gib" into the area. Within thirty days, evidence of some activity was taking place. The treated buds enlarged to almost twice the size.

Forty-five days from time of application brought my first and very nice bloom. Application at the same time has brought late varieties into bloom in 75-100 days. Here again normal flowers as to size and color were produced 75-100 days ahead of schedule.

For me this has proven a real pleasure. It has not only provided a double length flowering period, but has also been an aid in my hybridizing program in that it provides pollen early in the season.

I made an application on December 15th of the 10,000 p.p.m. formula which is the one most growers are using. This was also applied to all varieties and at this point of their maturity they should all be pushed into action within 45-50 days. This formula will produce unusual size, in some cases one third larger than normal. I think it should be noted there is an occasional variety showing no response.

Needless to say there will be much confusion in the necessity of adding many new regulations in our shows, and in changing the descriptions as known in our nomenclature book. These problems will resolve themselves as the growers meet them. Just now enthusiasm runs high and it will take a new tranquilizer to quiet this turn of events.

This treatment should prove a boon to the grower who sells cut flowers for the holiday demand. Gibberellic acid should make it possible to time spectacular bloom to coincide with shows, or to create landscape effects at definite periods. For example, one grower this season treated his large bush of variety "Purity" which is always late, and this Christmas had it in perfect form to enjoy. The many avenues of interest to explore will keep us busy and happy at heart for some time to come.

Camellias As Landscape Material

VI MORGENROTH

As Seen In The Stanley Miller Garden In El Cajon

By Alice M. Clark

Showtime for camellias means beautiful blooms. We are carried away with such enthusiasm for the flowers that we forget to consider the plant itself. For those whose main interest is in competitive display the flower is of paramount importance. This article is not for them. But for those who want handsome ornamentals for the garden, few shrubs in the plant kingdom serve successfully as many purposes as do camellias. They can be trees, hedges, bushes or ground covers, with leaf patterns from small pointed overlapping forms to broad types suggesting magnolias. And always they look as if they had been told to "rise and shine." They not only look clean — they are clean. Camellias have fewer pests than most plants. Some are fast and some are slow growers. Discover which is which before you plant. The flowers are just a wonderful bonus.

Visit camellia shows this year with your empty garden spaces in mind. Check your favorite colors and forms on the entry lists and then set about choosing those that will best fit your landscape. Study plants as a whole in a friend's garden or in nurseries because it is the shrub rather than the blooms that you will be enjoying most of the time.

To point up this interest in camellias as decorative material we visited the Stanley Miller garden in El Cajon. After winding up the hill through citrus trees laden with fruit we were greeted on the front terrace by our hostess. There we paused for a view over the purpling hills of Jamul into distant Mexico and again for a glimpse of El Cajon valley from the living room — a vista accented by the corrugated limbs and seedballs of a bare liquidambar tree that etched their way across the window. Looking into the rear garden, just one expression, "sylvan glade," seemed to describe the sight of a velvet green lawn beneath a California live oak on one side and a large deodar cedar on the other. Beyond, up and around the hill interspersed with azaleas and ferns, stretched the Miller collection of camellias, a perfect place to study their growth habits.

A spreading camellia to the right of the oak tree was an eye stopper. The slim pointed gray-green leaves seemed to flow over each other as they covered the rounded boughs. 'Briar Rose' is a slow-growing early-blooming sasanqua variety aptly named for the flower it resembles. It is a graceful filler for a good size space. At its feet were others of the sasanqua type that bring the first flowers of the camellia season. 'Hugh Evans,' a pink single, and 'Cleopatra' are trained down for a border. They have a commendable habit of seeding themselves to make more or thicker edgings. Some of these species have lilting Japanese names. The Millers use 'Yae-arare,' a large single white with a pink edge, as a ground cover.

There were many tall camellias to choose from. A large spreading specimen of the popular 'Elegans' (Chandler) near the patio was exuberant with rose pink blooms of anemone form that have a high tuft of small petals in the center. An excellent plant for an accent but a slow grower. Midway up the hill we stopped before a tall rangy camellia covered with very broad dark green leaves and big full strawberry-red flowers. We were told that it originated in the garden of a southern lady. Those who admired it constantly asked when she would name it. She always gave the same answer "Tomorrow" which eventually became the name it bears today.

'Mattei O'Reilly' has made a tall compact pyramid of slow growth. The very large rose-pink camellias vary delightfully from semi-double to peony form, an advantage when there is not room for many plants. 'Yuki-botan' (Pride of Descanso) is a fast growing upright with the same large variable blooms in white.

Noticeable for its open willowy habit and long slender leaves is 'Imura,' suitable for an espalier along a path or wall. A prolific bloomer, it is covered in mid-season with large semi-double white flowers that boast showy golden stamens.

Where the view must not be obstructed, plant slow growers. One of these is 'Glen 40,' compact and upright, with clear green foliage. It has fine large deep red camellias, formal to double rose form, middle to late season. 'Alba Plena' is slow and bushy with early large formal double white blooms. Its sport, 'Fimbriata' has fringed petals. For a pale pink flower in this location try 'Barbara Woodroof,' a west coast sport of 'Elegans.' It has similar flat outer petals with creamy raised petaloids in the center. Its early and mid-season blooms are striking against deep green compact leaves. Incidentally, no camellia of 'Elegans' strain should ever be topped.

Amidst the plethora of bloom on the Miller hillside it is difficult to keep a landscape objective in mind. A black and white photograph would show the pointed oval leaves and close-knit habit of 'Reg Ragland' but it takes color to convey its floriferousness. The big semi-double red blooms have large outer petals and

smaller ones inside among the yellow stamens. There is also a variegated form, with white blotches. They bloom early and late. 'Richard Nixon' is a newer camellia with dark green leaves on a shapely bush. Large pale pink anemone form flowers, occasionally striped rose-pink, have a long season. It was hard to see the foliage on 'Mrs. Maria Keating' through its mass of rose pink peony blooms, which splurge in mid-season. The petals are lighter on the outer edges.

The blush pink semi-double blooms on 'Mrs. D. W. Davis' are so large they seem to weigh the bush down. It has a distinctive core of stamens sometimes interrupted with petaloids. Its broad strong leaves on a sturdy shrub point up Mrs. Miller's remark that the habit of growth seems to resemble the leaf shape. The very large clear red semi-double flowers on 'Clarisse Carlton' are a real stop sign. This camellia was a San Diego introduction named for his wife by A. P. Carlton, both well-known to garden folk in this area. The shrub is noticeably strong and upright. A variegated form of this camellia is available.

One of the most dependable beauties of the last decade is 'Guilio Nuccio,' named for his father by the Altadena hybridizer. It is a tall vigorous bush with long heavy leaves, pointed and serrated. The flower, five inches or more across, with wavy petals of heavy texture often puckered into rabbit ears, is a glowing coral rose pink. The high center core of thick waxy threads, stained red at the base, is crusted with golden stamens at the top. It is a generous bloomer and keeper, a camellia to own.

The climate of El Cajon is most favorable for camellia culture. However, plants that flower well there may be difficult elsewhere so buyers should inquire about local conditions. For instance, the white camellia, 'Masterpiece' by Harvey Short, does not bloom well in some places but seems happy on a cold shaded terrace in La Jolla.

The Miller garden is a happy combination of talent, climate, and topography. Stanley Miller knows how to raise camellias. Because they grow on a hill, drainage is assured. Built-up areas are retained by curved logs. Every year the beds are mulched with two or three inches of mixed wood shavings, preferably redwood. It is then top dressed with nitrogen to offset that which is used up in decomposition. In time the soil becomes as springy as that of a natural forest. Summer suns can burn so the area is covered with a seran plastic netting that gives 50% shade.

For the continuous work which this means, the Miller's reward is pure pleasure; but further, how reassuring it must be to have so many prize-winners among their camellia blooms.

ROLAND HOYT RECOMMENDS JUPITER'S BEARD

This is *Anthyllis barba-jovis,* coming from the lands and the association of mythology. And by the beard . . . not of the Prophet, but that of Jove . . . one doesn't quite understand why so many supremely useful materials for garden and landscape are passed by year after year. Who is at fault? Surely someone must be remiss. Here's a try for one.

Here is something that has been almost completely overlooked in the horticulture of Southern California, and indeed, other favorable spots throughout other subtropical regions of the United States. Four decades ago in the old Crosby Nursery on Girard Street of La Jolla, stood a fine specimen of this species and for years the only one in the area. It was kind. It was prolific, as is its nature in reproducing, and seed, ripening as only it can on the plant, dropped to the sandy loam beneath for a considerable increase. This was the only known source of new plants for years, although Peter Riedel recalls several plants in Coronado as of 1905. It is found now infrequently in nurseries.

The plant is a small tree-shrub of unusual quality, grace and individuality . . . demigod, if you will, very select for form and the unique character of parts. The silky-silvery leaflets are narrow and pointed, somewhat folded in appearance and could reflect the fine-flowing beard of a young man; not that of an oldster. The drawing above by Alfred Hottes, shows the flower and terminal growth which soon compacts as foliage to obscure the grey, always vertical stems, so that the plant as a whole is very narrow-erect, 10-12′ high, a dense column that makes for excellent contrast. This is especially marked among lower and spreading forms in definite and high relief, color and form.

The flowers are less important, but

ALFRED HOTTES

none-the-less interesting and perhaps a bit nostalgic for some people. They come along over March-April-May, white clover heads as shown, tipping the new terminal growth, but by May the meticulous gardener will be removing the spent and brown blooms . . . not until later if new plants are desired.

This individual will stand cheerfully in extreme heat plus the reflected punishment of rocks or glaring white paint. It will stand as well in the cold winds off the ocean, almost to include the sprayline. It will do best in a sandy soil of poor fertility and probably should be restricted to nearly frost-free localities with good air drainage. Don't pamper this. It wants no coddling and can be hurt with too much water or undue feeding.

A small block of these plants was found recently in the far-back-country of the Washington Street Nursery of San Diego. They had stood unwanted for some years and were on the list for dumping. They were saved and some have since gone out; probably some are still there. "Tony" was encouraged to propagate and this "blurb" is to give some practical recognition of merit. The follow-up is yours . . . the reader and/or gardener.

TOURS for MEMBERS

The monthly garden tours open to members of the San Diego Floral Association, which began last October, have provided many delightful afternoons. The gardens, all professionally landscaped, have been impressive in their variety, artistry, and individuality.

In October, the La Jolla gardens of Mrs. John G. Clark and Miss Katherine Sneve were open. Mrs. Clark specializes in flowering trees and shrubs. Her South African Tulip Tree, *Spathodea campanulata,* displayed dazzling clusters of scarlet tulip-shaped flowers seldom seen here. The yellow blooms of *Markhamia lutea* were also rare and beautiful. The Sneve landscape was gay with an unusual collection of rosy succulents, begonias, and epidendrums, pointed up by a fine specimen of *Pittosporum crassifolium,* which bears chocolate colored flowers in spring.

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On Point Loma in November, Dr. David Higbee and Mrs. John H. Fox shared their rare trees and magnificent views of the bay and ocean. Dr. Higbee has five Brisbane Box, *Tristania conferta,* which do well in that location. The blossoms look like snowflakes. There was also a Port Orford Cedar of unusual size for such a windy area. Six red birch, *Betula nigra,* in the Fox garden have dramatic cinnamon-red bark. This Southern birch is well adapted to this climate. The new *Camellia granthamiana* has white petals and yellow stamen reminding one of a Matilija Poppy. An effective lawn for a north exposure was *Cotula squalida,* a dainty fern-like plant.

In Mission Hills, the gardens of Dr. and Mrs. Purvis Martin and Mr. and Mrs. H. Robert Kaplan were seen in December. In the Martin patio, a Firewheel Tree, *Stenocarpus sinuatus,* was the first of its kind to be seen by many on the tour. Clusters of pink hydrangea-like blossoms on the *Dombeya wallichi* hedge made an exotic background for the Oriental garden below. The espaliered Powder Puff Vine. *Calliandra inequalatera,* with its fuzzy pink balls, was lovely against fieldstone walls. The view of Presidio Park and Mission Bay, framed by the Kaplan garden, was attraction enough without the magnificent Lemon Gum, *Eucalyptus citriodora,* and two very tall specimens of Camellia 'Marchioness of Exeter' now become rare.

On February 9th, the Stanley Millers will open their El Cajon garden from 2 to 5. There, around a beautiful sylvan glade and sheltered by old trees, are prize-winning camellias, azaleas, and other shade plants.

The tours are open without charge to members of the San Diego Floral Association. For further information call 232-5762 on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday.

One of two open gardens in March will be that of Dr. R. H. Sundberg at 4430 Arista Drive in Mission Hills. A huge coral tree in the front corner is a feature when in bloom. There is a rose terrace and a series of walled gardens and patios.

The paved terrace under the gray trunks of an enormous rubber tree, *Ficus retusa,* in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Hall at 2388 Pine St. projects an old world feeling. The feeling is enhanced by the wrought iron well-head in the center and the statuary interspersed in the colorful flower borders.

CAMELLIA JEWELS

Lucian C. Atherton

The author helped organize the San Diego Camellia Society and was chairman of the board which planted camellias in Balboa Park many years ago. In 1940, he pioneered in raising miniatures. Mr. Atherton is a contributor to national and Southern California Camellia journals.

Within the past ten years the miniature camellia has been recognized as an asset to any camellia collection. The increasing interest in the "little ones" is reflected by the fact that nearly every camellia show has a miniature division. The San Diego Camellia Show was one of the first which featured this division with a miniature sweepstakes winner. The San Diego Camellia Society also led in the establishment of a miniature class at its regular meeting bloom display.

From the beginning the public has been interested in the miniature exhibit, even though it has been limited to a few established varieties, such as Fircone, Tinsie, Florence Daniel, Fleurette, and the specie varieties of Betty McCaskill and Kuro-Tsubaki. These little gems were all put in one class with the few exhibitors competing for one set of ribbons. This year's San Diego Camellia Show, as in all major shows, will feature a complete miniature division with the regular variety classes competing for dozens of ribbon awards. The Best Miniature Bloom will be found on the Court of Honor table with the other top award winners. Nearly every exhibitor contributes to the hundreds of miniature entries which number several dozen varieties. Several growers specialize in the growing and development of new miniature varieties.

These are not freaks or runts. Miniatures are varieties which produce flowers under two and a half inches in diameter. They are miniature in bloom only and their range of form and color is the same as in the standard sizes. The same is true when considering cultural needs, growth habits and foliage. They are often more prolific bloomers and thus do not create a color void when interspersed with other camellia plants. An effective garden use is to have a separate plot for miniatures. They make ideal container plants for the patio and elsewhere, and become more effective when pruned and shaped.

Good miniature seedlings are not plentiful but the increased interest in them has resulted in many escaping being used as understock. An even more rare source is miniature mutations, but these will increase as new varieties are added to the trade. As several years are required to prove a miniature, a much needed upgrading has been taking place as new varieties are discovered and proven. A wider range of color and form is resulting. We have many fine anemone varieties with an increasing number of peony formed flowers. There is a need for more formal doubles and rose forms. Single formed miniatures have never become very popular although some are dainty and well balanced. An attractive miniature needs to be more compact than is the case with the larger flowers.

Miniature exhibits are generally limited to the Japonica species, as is the case in the nomenclature book which now lists varieties as miniature in size classification. Betty McCaskill and Kuro-Tsubaki are non-Japonica varieties which will always remain popular. One rigid requirement is that the bloom must conform to the size of not more than two and a half inches in diameter. A true miniature variety plant will produce over 75% of its blooms within this size.

Be sure the one you choose is a proven variety, such as those exhibited at the camellia shows. Nursery stocks of miniature camellia plants are very limited, but an increasing demand will result in a larger available supply.

There are many uses for these little blooms. They lend themselves gracefully to lovely small arrangements which are ideal for a limited space. Use them for small multi-flowered corsages, nosegays, hat decorations, coronets, and as substitutes for costume jewelry. They provide the male with an ideal long-lasting boutonniere bloom suitable to any attire. It is with real satisfaction that the male camellian can wear his pride and joy. These little ones are the jewels of the garden and they will delight you.

S. D. UNION STAFF PHOTO

Camellia corsages by Mrs. Julian Bradford, chairman of corsage committee, San Diego Camellia Show. Clockwise from upper right: Debutante, Adolphe Audusson, Wildwood, Alba Plena.

. . . people are not talking

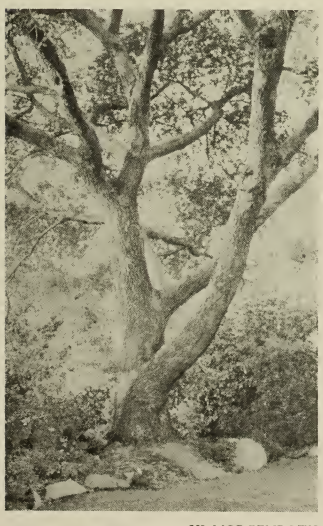
About Birds and Wild Life in La Jolla Shores

. . . much any more

Margery L. Walker

Carl W. Buchheister, president of the National Audubon Society, in the January-February 1963 issue of AUDUBON, commented that the Rachael Carson book, "Silent Spring," was a "thistley" one, so I realize that I am picking up a prickly bit when I submit my ideas on the subject. Admittedly I am a devotee of nature, having been guided from early childhood through the wooded country around my home by a naturalist grandfather. The knowledge and love of wild creatures and birds which he passed on to me has been responsible for some of my most rewarding experiences.

When Miss Carson's book first came out I left my name on the library list and it was five months before the book was available. In the meantime, my physician had given me a copy. She, too, does not approve of sprays with any poison content which could be harmful to the animal and bird world. I've talked with various people and gotten varied reactions, none of them lukewarm. She has stirred up a hornet's nest and I believe that was her purpose.



VI MORGENROTH

OAK IN MILLER GARDEN

According to WILD LIFE and AUDUBON magazines the pesticide business has a large and wealthy lobby in Washington. In spite of this, however, so much pressure was brought to bear by the public that the late President Kennedy allotted a 2.6 million dollar fund for 1963 (Pesticide Act) to be used for research. Only one third of this allotment has been used to date. Indifference or lobby activity?

I admit I prefer my fruits and vegetables without benefit of worms and so forth, but I also believe that the chemical industry can solve the pesticide problem without damaging small animals and birds. It would seem smarter to me for them to channel their lobby monies into research. Some pesticides already have effective sprays that are guaranteed to do this.

One has only to look at Miss Carson's bibliography of principal sources to realize that this book is not written without study and verification. If there is even a chance that presently used poisons might be harmful to persons, certainly it should be outlawed. In the July-August issue of AUDUBON there is an article about 40 species of birds poisoned by DDT and lists 53 possible others. In an earlier AUDUBON there is an article by Michigan State University on the poisoning of the Robin. The 1963 Index for AUDUBON reveals that there were more articles on pesticides and legislature concerning their control, together with articles pro and con regarding "Silent Spring" than any other subject.

There is no doubt that pesticides are not alone responsible for our decreasing bird population, and the disappearance of many species. The ever growing population is taking more and more of their natural habitat and feeding areas. If you live in the San Diego area go to the Museum of Natural History and look at the display of birds natural to the San Diego area given by Ellen Scripps. There will be very few that can be found now in the area.

I hope I never see or hear a "Silent Spring." We live east of La Jolla Shores Drive, and when we moved here after the last war we were the third house to be built in this area.

Look at the list of birds and animals we saw at that time:

Meadow larks and quail nesting on our property.

Rabbits, ground squirrels and skunks.

A mountain lion who appeared in the Bancroft patio.

Mocking Birds, Linnets, and White Crown Sparrows.

Townsend, Macgillivray, Audubon, and Pileolated Warblers.

Vireos, King Birds, and Say Phoebes.

Oregon and Brown Towhees.

Western Tanagers and Black-headed Grosbeaks.

Red-Winged, Yellow-Headed, and plain Black birds.

Phainopeplas, Lazuli Buntings, and Mountain Chickadees.

Swallows, Robins, and Cedar Waxwings.

Hermit Thrush, Bush Tits, and California Thrashers.

Scott's Oriole, Hooded Oriole, and Bullock's Oriole.

Goldfinch, Blue Birds, and Mountain Jays.

Oregon Juncos and Owls.

Red Tail Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, and Yellow Tail Hawks.

Small Sparrow Hawks.

Road Runners. Doves. Road Runners.

Now we have Dove, White Crown Sparrow, and Orioles who nest each year in our banana trees, Bush Tits, an occasional Black Bird or Mountain Jay and a rare number of various warblers.

There was one Meadow Lark this year.

One Flicker who wintered with us for years came, two years ago, for the last time. He stayed a few days trying to make a living with grubs, etc., but had to move on. I believe that many of the birds missing have not been

Please turn to page 26

and who shall replace the Euca-lyptus?

RICHARD DIXON

Alice M. Rainford

The first beautifully clear morning of the summer I was awake at sunrise and had the pleasure of seeing our new County Hospital bathed in a rosy glow. I looked across the canyon from Third Avenue and saw the tremendous building rising like a beautiful castle above the feathery tops of eucalyptus trees on the edge of the canyon. I had not thought the structure beautiful until then.

It made me think seriously of the fact that we are fast losing all our fine old eucalyptus trees. All over the county they are going before highway progress, building tracts, and drought. Most of our fine groves and plantings were made from fifty to seventy years ago and there has been little planting since that time. Eucalyptus should be planted now in locations, if such can be found, where they can remain. I will admit they are not suitable for planting along paved streets, yet what pleasure we used to feel years ago, when driving along a country road, when we came to the cool shade of an avenue of eucalyptus trees!

They take years to attain such size and if the next generation is to know the pleasure of a fine stand of trees, we should be planting them now. Mr. E. W. Scripps tried so hard to plant an enduring grove at Miramar, but frost and drought have taken most of them. Even a eucalyptus wants better soil than his area provided, and a more sheltered location. Balboa Park has had some magnificent eucalyptus, but I doubt if the Park authorities have planted many in recent years, and like many trees, they reach maximum size and beauty in about fifty years and then begin to deteriorate.

Take one last look at the fine big ones near Front and Dickenson Streets, near the hospital. Soon there will be graders and great earth movers will be clearing away all those trees which seem so glorious on my skyline. I am sure they will plant palms and other trees there again, but I shall miss the eucalyptus planted by a dear old friend of mine who owned the canyon lots. That was sixty years ago. I hope a few are in positions where they may remain, although probably another decade or two would cover their life span, even if modern progress does spare them.

Design from a terra cotta vase painting. Greek youths dancing in a sacred grove.

BABYLON TO BONSAI

PART 2

By AMY J. WORMSER

Illustrations by the author

The birth of Buddha in 620 B.C. began a whole new direction in the garden world. Buddha seems to have spent most of his time sitting under trees; first, in his father's garden under a pomegranate, and then under the famous "BO" tree where he received the call to go out and teach.

Soon the old sacred trees were endowed with more holiness than ever, and to plant a grove became the dream of every faithful follower of Buddha. In time the Buddhist groves were added to the hunting parks of the old Assyrians and Persians and became great peaceful meeting places of the people and the symbol of tranquility. With the Buddhist missionaries, these quiet areas spread their soothing shade to Ceylon, to China, and finally, to Japan. With them we witness the birth of the landscape garden which in time is to revolutionize the geometric arrangement so firmly established in the ancient world.

The great periods of Cretan and Mycenean culture flourished in the Mediterranean basin a thousand years before the time of Buddha. These were in many ways comparable to the finest periods in Egypt, but curiously, there is little trace of a fine art of gardening. This may be because, on the Greek mainland, the castles were fortresses rather than palaces and there was little space for cultivation. The houses were tightly packed against the castle walls; no room here for gracious living. Only a few flowers seem to have been known to the early Greeks: "the rose, the violet and the lovely parsley" as an old folk song has it; and the poppy, lily, crocus, and hyacinth which to this day grow wild in the rocky Greek hills.

5,000 YEARS OF GARDENING HISTORY

Perhaps we can trace the germ of a later garden to the so-called "Adonis" gardens of Greek women who, at a mid-summer festival, put statues of Adonis on the flat roof tops. Around these they put pots of fennel, lettuce, wheat, and barley — all of which sprang up quickly and as quickly died in the hot summer sun. Among the withering plants, they sang dirges for the death of the beautiful young Adonis.

Mary Renault, in THE LAST OF THE WINE, gives us a wonderful picture of the phase of Greek life which developed what we might call the college campus. As the philosophers gathered their followers they first held their "conversations" in public places, and later, as the rivalry between them grew, in their own gardens. Here the devoted built little shelters to be near the masters—the first college dormitories! At the same time the "gymnasium" evolved. The word described not only the buildings in which the games and exercises were held, but the vast parks surrounding them. These gymnasia eventually became so huge and noisy that the wealthier men began buying up lands on which to build private parks or "palaestra," where they held private games and lured their favorite philosophers, about as our college faculties are raided today.

The Greek city garden of the private citizen, however, was small and paved and seldom had room for more than pot gardening. Even the wreath of parsley, so fashionable to wear to a dinner party, had to be bought in the market place. The simplicity which bespoke so much of classic Greek taste gradually succumbed to the rather flashy taste of the East, as more and more examples of Byzantine and Persian arts were brought back to the small islands by the conquerors. The islands sprouted elaborate grottos; great out-door festival chambers were hung with animal skins and silken rugs; over elaborate statuary and exotic plants became the rage, and the ideal garden mien gave way to Eastern pomp and glitter.

Rome by now had been a thousand years in her development. The Egyptian world had all but vanished with Cleopatra winding up a history of more than four thousand years of recorded history. The magnificent Aegean culture had utterly vanished fifteen hundred years before. Greece had evolved, battled her way to the heights and, along with Egypt, vanished as a great state of the western world. Rome inherited this vast mint of history.

The Roman house resembled the Greek in many ways. What the Roman had that the Greek did not was the country home. Romans in the time of Empire were great land buyers; small farms all over Italy were owned by one man. It became necessary as his holdings increased to have pleasant places to stop when he made visits to his lands. Gradually his town house became merely his business headquarters and one or more of his country villas became his real living site. Suburbia was as much a part of many men's lives as it is today. The scramble of rushing down in the donkey cart to meet the six-forty chariot from Rome was probably as much of a problem for the little woman as gathering the kiddies into the station wagon is today.

As the Romans grew richer and idler, the country villas grew to tremendous areas; the farms were pushed farther and farther from the cities, and eventually a reaction began to take place. A sort of City Center consciousness awoke; houses were torn down to make room for gardens both public and private. Temple gardens and theatre precincts were laid out in the Greek fashion. Private grounds in the cities began to rival the public ones in scale and grandeur. The grandest of these, of course, were those of the Emperors'. These were filled with statues to heroes, clipped hedges, topiary work, arenas for games and sanctuaries to the gods. It became fashionable (or perhaps deductible?) to buy up house sites, construct great gardens, present some enormous spectacle (as Augustus's sea fight for which he built a tremendous lake) and then with super-colossal show, make a public presentation.

Pliny the Younger, that voluble and valuable historian we can least well do without, describes (along with how to catch an elephant and the properties of garlic as a physic) his own lavish grounds and buildings. We read of his novel version of air conditioning: a sub-terranian room, the walls painted to represent cool gardens, fountains with ingenious plumbing sprinkling the scene, the ceiling painted blue and studded with stars, and doves flitting about in this fool-the-eye world. "Frigidarium" is the evocative name of this fine summer retreat.

In Imperial times the differences in ways of living became more and more marked. The suburban villas grew larger and more complicated, the public places grander, and the town houses more contracted and narrow. Houses grew taller as they have in our own cities, and the atriums turned into mere light slits. Planting took ingenuity; the balcony and the window box came into style through sheer necessity. Pliny tells us that these balconies were a fine opportunity for thieves and that many daring burglaries forced people to finally give them up. The city man now took to roof gardening, and Seneca tells us that "on high towers they planted fruit trees with roots where their tops ought to be."

As the Roman Empire expanded and officials had to live away from Italy, extravagant houses were built on huge land holdings in the African colonies. These were fortified, self-supporting communities quite different from the colonial living in the northern provinces. In the northern provinces the Romans built great sprawling villas, the forerunner of the open-winged villa of the Renaissance. Here the Greek collonade became a terrace, the ancestor of that fanciful geometric arrangement of bordered, intricately patterned, flower beds, the "Parterre." Every thing the Romans did in Gaul and on the Rhine was swept away by the invading Teutons. The colonists crowded back to Rome, and along with the other arts the story of gardening is lost for a long period of time. Occasionally the vandals attempted to preserve the old holdings for their own use, but taste became corrupted. The old style survived into the sixth century only in isolated spots in Byzantium, Spain, and the south of France. The open villa was no longer safe from attack, so through the ages it became the castle of the Middle Ages. Perched always on the highest possible rocky crag, crowded and airless, inaccessible to both enemies and inhabitants, no inch or ounce of strength could go to planting.

The Crusades, lasting as they did for many centuries, were of vast importance to the history of gardening, as indeed they were to many other fields of art. In the Holy Land the Crusader saw gardens which were the lineal descendants of those of ancient Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, and the unchanging east of India and Persia. Every later illustration of a Tudor garden in England, or the lovely terraced gardens of Italy, the Byzantine gardens overlooking the Black Sea, the walled and sheltered gardens of Spain, can be traced to their origins. The Elizabethan reflects the simplest of them all; the rectangular Eastern chessboard arrangement whose form came of the necessity for watering with trenches—the "living water" of the Bible.

The Villa d'Este type of Italian garden is the descendant of the hanging gardens of Babylon and Assyria. The prototype of our own familiar patio traces to the Moorish sheltered courts of Spain with their cool cherished shade and the life-giving, comfort-giving water bubbling from unadorned well or splashing musically from tiled fountain or carved wall ornament. The Crusaders saw, too, the remains of the Eastern Paradises and the labyrinths of Crete and Greece. These, constructed for the ancient Mysteries, became the mediaeval and much later Victorian maze.

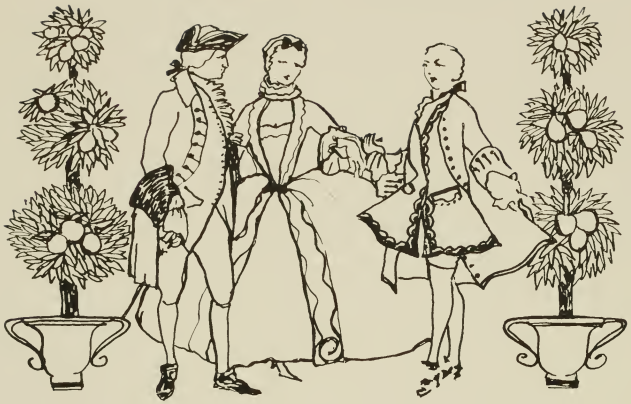
Oriental splendor the Crusaders saw in Constantinople, that old city once called Byzantium which the Romans had turned into a Greco-Roman city complete with gymnasia, stadia, and race courses. To all that, the Emperor Constantine had added tricky Eastern arrangements which would have horrified the classic Greeks. Artificial gold and silver trees, golden mechanical singing birds, and such impressive items as golden carved lions which beat their tails upon the ground and roared. Glitter and sparkle, exotic materials, ingenious display; seeds of plants and seeds of ideas; a vast accumulation the Crusaders brought home in their heads and in their saddle bags.

Meanwhile, as the Shahs and the Caliphs of Persia and India built more and fancier mosaiced and gilded pavilions, entertained themselves with bigger and better wild animal shows, invested in gaudier and costlier wives and generally out-splendored each other, the quiet monasteries of Europe gave new breath to the ancient arts of horticulture and medicine. Crude and simple as were their methods, preposterous as were some of their beliefs, it is to the monks of the Middle Ages we look for the maintenance of the ancient reverence for labor and for learning.

The Cloisters became the horticultural and gardening schools of the time. Monks making pilgrimages from cloister to cloister and from shrine to shrine carried new plants and gardening practices with them. The ancient Greek botanical lore was translated in the quiet scriptoria of the convents, copied and recopied through the generations. The errors were repeated and multiplied; the fantastic neo-facts became more fantastic with every repetition. In the garden books of the Middle Ages fact and fancy are scarcely recognizable as the old treatises of the Philosophers. But for all that—The Dark Ages in Europe were kept from being entirely black in the damp cold chapels and cells of the hard working monks and nuns. Much that was written with stiff chilly hands by dim grey light may have been incorrect, but it kept the lamp of learning burning, and it kept beauty alive.

Life outside the cloisters was as rugged as it was within. The ladies of the Middle Ages, along with their unmechanized tasks of scrubbing, weaving, cooking, had of necessity to be doctors as well, for they tended the health of their serfs, their children and their knights who were constantly coming home sick from the Crusades and banged up from the jousts. We may think of ourselves as doing man's work when we put on our jeans and dig holes for next year's rose bushes or flowering apricots, but the mistress of the fifteenth century castle, with her kirtle tucked up and her wimple askew —planted her roses not for the Spring Show, but along with marigolds, periwinkle and poppies for the mixing of the simples, sauces and flower waters needed for the running of her kitchen and her home apothecary. Her violets she chopped and mixed with onions for a gourmet "salat," and her primroses and roses she stewed for company dessert.

As the roving husbands brought home strange practices, such as planting flowers simply to enjoy looking at them, and dining and lounging out of doors—and as times grew more peaceful so that the tiny household garden no longer needed to be hidden behind high walls, gardens spread outside the villages and castles to the suburbs. History repeated in Europe the great Roman passion for country living, eventually on a vast and extravagant scale. Pleasure parks appeared on land once occupied by crowded tenements and the boom of city beautifying changed the look of the old battle-ready towns. Swans paddled in the moats, the portcullises went up, and the towns spread outside the great stone walls. Every town tried to outfountain, out-statue and out-plant its



In an 18th century "Orangerie"

neighbor. The gardeners were put to work clipping and trimming and espaliering in a mass race for townupmanship. Gold and silver trees with jewelled flowers, carved and gilded animals on poles, aviaries, pavilions perched in trees, elaborate mazes, paths paved with grated marble and colored sand, vast lakes and artificial mountains—all these and more of the ancient extravagances of the Persian and Byzantine traditions supplied enough do-it-with-cheap-labor projects for centuries. Peace—it was wonderful, and the Dark Ages were over and gone.

The old Romans had started the vogue for fanciful sculpture in the garden. The later Italians, reverting to the classic Greek and Roman fad, not only used up all the ancient sculpture they could lay their hands on, but manufactured antiques in quantity to populate their groves, grottos, and terraces. The terraces of Italy developed into the huge ornate parterres of France, for which numberless complicated patterns were available. The tidy little squared-off flower-edged vegetable plots of lesser gardens were contemporaries of the elaborated "parterres-en-broderie" of the rich and grand —that acme of artificiality of which we have the final echo in those nasty arrangements of hand colored succulents and plastic pebbles seen in some of our parks today.

And then to France came Le Notre—the genius who bespoke the final glory of the Renaissance. His pupils became the court gardeners and arbiters of garden fashion for much of the western world. Born in Paris in 1613, his heritage was such that he could not have helped being garden-conscious on the grand scale. His grandfather was a court gardener, his father was superintendent of the Tuilleries gardens. His education included travel in the Far East, Italy, and Greece to study the old and famous gardens, art, and architecture. No gardener's boy he, up from the ranks. When LeBrun was engaged to build an elaborate moated castle for Mazarin's financial minister, Fouquet, and 16,000 men were hired to work on the project, Le Notre was brought in to do the gardens. It was the accomplishment of the eleven years that Le Notre put into Fouquet's garden which was to influence our gardens today.

We take for granted that the site, the house, and the surroundings dictate the form of our gardens. It was Le Norte who first expressed this thesis. He believed that the garden should be seen as a whole from the chateau, and went about laying out extensive views. He put in vast parterres. He did not abandon the fountains, water theatres, grottos, statues and clipped allées fashionable in his day, but used them with the utmost dramatic flourish to create background settings for the court fetes—that Must of the seventeenth century social whirl.

As it turned out, Fouquet had built his charming home with stolen funds, so that when he finally gave a grand five-day garden warming, it so warmed the king—Louis XIV, that he promptly clapped Fouquet in jail for life, confiscated his property, and moved most of the statuary and plants to Versailles. He also absorbed Le Notre, who was engaged to finish the lavish remodelling which the king had started some time before.

While Le Norte continued for years producing surprises and exotic effects for the insatiable Louis in France, botany-conscious Holland was stealing quietly onto the scene.

The Botanical Gardens of Amsterdam had long been receiving strange and wonderful plants, thanks to the enterprising Dutch merchants and explorers to the east.

Garden design at length was affected by these eastern travellers and soon Dutch influence was rivalling French and English in garden styles. One of the most interesting of these flying Dutchmen was Englebert Kaempfer (of *Iris kaempferi* and other familiar plants) who, in the employ of the Dutch East India Company, went in 1688 to Japan and Batavia. An illuminating interlude before Japan's doors were slammed on the west is told in that entrancing tale of Oliver Statler's JAPANESE INN. Visitors to Japan were required to call upon the Shogun, and here we find Kaempfer and his retinue trudging down the Tokaido Road to do their duty. The Dutch were called The Red Hairs and were escorted by a hundred Japanese who never gave them one moments privacy. In Edo Kaempfer gained the friendship of the Shogun, who was enormously intrigued with western doings. The stipulation was made that Kaempfer might stay in Japan only if he reported faithfully every thing that went on in the outside world. As the Spanish and Portuguese had been kicked out for disobeying this rule, Kaempfer was careful. He did a two way reporting job, however, and it is to his vivid account of the goings-on along the Tokaido Road, as well as to his more scholarly observations, that Europe owes an early interest in Japanese gardens.

In order to get the background to the story of Japan and our Dr. Kaempfer, we must now return more than 3,000 years to China. Here the plow,

From an 18th century woodcut by Shegenaga

soil testing, and an amazing pharmacopoeia had originated long before. While Europe was in the Dark Ages, the T'ang Dynasty for the 300 years from 600 to 900 A.D., saw the greatest eras of China's marvelous cultures. By the time of the Ming Dynasty at the end of the 14th century, Chinese garden art had hit the peak of its development. Every religion which penetrated China had its influence on its art, but Buddhism had the greatest influence on gardens. The Buddhist Grove aspired to be as Nature herself might have made it, and the natural landscape became the Chinese ideal. To produce a landscape which was more like nature than nature herself often was a Herculean task. Craggy mountains, crashing waterfalls, storm-battered conifers and splitting moss-covered rocks—in many places these had to be brought from afar. The rules for their assembly grew fixed and rigid. Although the finished product may have looked to the passing pilgrim as if it had all just happened that way, this was far from the case. The lovely little pagoda at the top of the hill may have seemed the only man-made thing in the scene, but the hill was artificial; the rocks each had a mystic role, and may have been carried for many painful miles on coolie-back, and every peach and peony had a meaning all its own. Every gnarled branch and every barky stump had a reason and a rule for being exactly where it was. The Imperial Court set the style, and the lesser gardeners simply scaled down the recipe to fit their own acres.

This miniaturing took enormous skill; there could be no waste space or motion. No element could appear which didn't have meaning and carry the correct symbolism. The very act of laying out a garden crystallized under fixed laws. The fourteenth century gentleman looked out upon his lovely landscape from the deck of his painted junk floating dreamily on the lilied waters of the lake he'd made. The shores were sanded and combed, and the sea shells from the far coasts of the kingdom were set out with ritual reverence.

The Chinese were skillful in scaling down their plants and garden elements. The Japanese, when the nature-code reached their islands, added an imaginative touch. Two factors contributed to this variation on the old Chinese dogma. For one thing, Japanese gardens were smaller than the Chinese, so the scaling down had to be done with even more discretion, and secondly, Buddhism in Japan had a new philosophy—Zen—which decreed simplicity in all things.

Tea-tasting, introduced also from China, had evolved into a ritual which affected all aspects of Japanese life. It became a national sacrament "devoted to the admiration of beauty in the sordid facts of every day life." A Tea Priest must now even lay out the garden so that all should be in perfect harmony; and lest error should creep in, nothing should ever be quite finished. The spectator shall fill the gaps with his imagination. This led to another precept: if you haven't got it —pretend you have. Thus we find the Dried-Up-Water-Scenery for example: a little sand, raked in the direction water might take, a few carefully bent trees at the edge of the sand, a number of rocks of the prescribed size, sex, and shape, some stepping stones, a lantern to guide the ghosts—and imagination. Where it seems there once was water, water will one day flow again.

Into this peaceful scene came finally the ambassadors and the merchants and the missionaries from Europe, and then back they sailed with breathless descriptions of this fabulously different land. The idea of Nature looking like Nature was something startlingly original to the sophisticated gardeners of the European courts, whose object all divine had been the tricking of Nature into being something that she wasn't. Before long the enchanted visitors to the Orient got in their word. Down came the embroidered parterres and the battlements of carved up yew trees, the intricate labyrinth and mazes—and Nature—it was grand! Open up that vista, with trick perspective make your little acre look like six, fool that trickle into looking like a mighty river flowing into the free form lily pond, hide a rustic shrine behind that rock! England welcomed the new fashion with shovels and exuberance. The day of that useful four-letter word—the HA-HA—had come. This was a wide trench concealed out of sight in the landscape, and so devised that the country gentleman's cattle were picturesquely moted into the distance, and the old spoil-the-view wall could be torn down.

The peak of the nature mania came with Repton. This erudite gentleman went off to Italy, fell for the landscape painters of the foggy-sentimental school, and came home to put the canvasses onto land. But Nature didn't stay ahead for long. The ornate in Oriental decoration got the upper hand, when, in 1772, Sir William Chambers was commissioned to lay out the gardens at Kew. He built a mosque with minarets, and a pagoda embellished with dragons, and gilded the works brightly from top to bottom. Chippendale did a new line of furniture; Pillement went to work on the Toile de Jouey wall papers and fabrics; China herself produced vast stocks of porcelain for export, and "in-the-Chinese-fashion" was a style which couldn't be ignored indoors or out.

The "Artistic" bubble blew bigger and bigger until it finally burst. Once more the terraces appeared before the great houses; "bedding-out" in horrible patterns flourished, and the formal garden had a re-birth. But it was not all bad. Strange new trees and flowering shrubs were making their appearance from the American colonies, and the real gardeners were fascinated with the new shape and colors. Batty Langley emerged from the horde of disputing gardeners with the iconoclastic idea of using mixed plantings, unclipped, for hedges—forest trees, fruits, flowering shrubs. Horace Walpole, up on Strawberry Hill, backed him up in the idea. The herbaceous border, that English glory, was born of the battle of the unclipped hedge and the unpleasant bedding of the formal revival.

The three lovelies we think of today as embodying the best in gardening, are the rolling lawn with its engagingly casual vista through waving trees, the herbaceous border, and off in exactly the right place, the formal gardens—discrete, charming, and wafting the very breath of Queen Anne.

Eight thousand years of gifted, skillful mortals: Persia, India, Asia, Africa, Europe, and America. Here they all are, at last in a happy melange—that Paradise of the twentieth century—The English Garden.

Under the English oak or beside the Spanish gate; in ranch-house patio or in lofty pent-house window—compact and serene, grows today that tiny distillation of the antique Orient, our fondly tended graceful little Bonsai. The twain have met, indeed.

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50 YEARS AGO in CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Hopeful Signs

Active members of the Floral Association are taking keen interest in, and derive much satisfaction from the numerous reports of a general awakening to the needs and great possibilities in making our streets and homes more beautiful by the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers. Improvement clubs make these topics subjects for discussion; the daily press are giving editorial space to helpful suggestions along this line; our city officials recognize the importance of general activity in planting; and our neighboring cities and villages are organizing floral and tree planting societies. This general interest is what the San Diego Floral Association has long hoped to awaken, and the prospects for a cleaner, prettier, and more attractive city and county, were never brighter than at the present time.

It is a pleasure to note the increasing interest among young folks in gardening and agricultural pursuits. Quite a number of school boys in San Diego are growing successfully one or more kinds of plants, in which they take real pride and derive a great deal of satisfaction.

These boys seem to have grasped the great fact that there is no cleaner, better, nor more honorable vocation than tilling the soil, and as they progress they will find ample opportunity for the display of ability, reliability, endurance and action.

☆ ☆ ☆

The women's Civic League of Pasadena are warring on bill-boards, and have been commended by the city commission for their efforts to make the city more attractive.

☆ ☆ ☆

The advertising value of pretty streets and front yards brings up again the old question as to what really is our greatest asset.

☆ ☆ ☆

The secretary was assured the backing of the association in undertaking the planting of another lot to late varieties of wild flowers, provided interested parties would give the use of the lot and stand a part of the expense.

A. D. Robinson

A Nearly Podless Bailey Acacia

Ernest E. Dale

A specimen of *Acacia Baileyana* in the Quail Park Botanic Garden, Encinitas, California, has been found to be nearly podless. Absence of the usual multitude of pods on and under the tree first caused me to notice the condition. This was in 1962. During January and February of 1963 the tree flowered normally with no sign of lessening in the number of flowers or reduction in vigor. After flowering, the tree on casual examination appeared to have no pods but closer inspection showed some pods were present. I estimated the number at about two hundred. Thus for garden purposes the tree was nearly podless. The fact that some pods were present suggests that the tree may possibly be male sterile (pollen sterile) and that the pods present might have resulted from pollination by insects or by wind carrying pollen from another tree. No other specimen of *A. Baileyana* was close by though others were in the vicinity. I suspect that the near-sterile condition in this species may be found occasionally, especially in southern California. Since most acacias may be propagated by half-ripened cuttings with a heel, the remedy for pod litter in *A. Baileyana* may be at hand.

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PINK AND SILVER

FLORENCE A. PIERCE

Carlsbad

A planting of pink and silver, long time dream of this garden custodian, seems about to become a reality. Ground has been prepared, some plants placed, and growth is underway.

At the base of a large Dombeya bush, whose lovely pink "snow-balls" are looking down impatient to see what will appear below, a border of rocks outlines the edges with *Cerastium tomentosum.* This is known as 'Snow-in-Summer.' Its silver gray foliage is already making a good start. This plant will spread, but may be trimmed to keep within bounds, and is always a delight, with or without its white blossoms.

One plant of *Lamium maculatum* will spread and may be divided to make more plants if it proves satisfactory. The leaves are dull green and heart-shaped with a silver stripe down the center. This is an old-time plant again coming in to favor. The catalog describes "old rose salvia-like flowers above the ornamental foliage." Time will tell.

Aubrieta gloriosa, or rock-cress, is spreading, the foliage green with bloom of clear pink. This, with Cerastium nearby, should make a carpet of pink and white in early summer.

Arabis variegata, with white edged green leaves, seems happy in this garden near *Artemisia lactiflora,* a variety of Wormwood with Astilbe-like flowers of creamy white grown for its fragrance. Another Artemisia, 'Silver King,' grows in the background with a pink Marguerite. Each will grow from 2½ to 3 feet. In front of these grows Veronica 'Minuet' — an English import with silver gray foliage and soft pink bloom in July.

A few plants of Dusty Miller (*Centaurea cineraria*), 'Diamond' or 'Silver Queen' are desirable; and Geranium 'Mrs. Parker' with a white edged leaf and nice pink bloom. This variety does not grow too tall and makes a bushy plant which is beautiful at any time.

A few of the succulents with gray leaf and pink bloom could be used. A rather new *Lychnis dioica,* an English introduction, with bright pink double flowers, will go in the background. Artemesia 'Silver Mound' and *Salvia argentea* will be tried later.

The difficulty is to know what not to plant rather than which to use. There are so many fascinating plants available.

Pink and silver—a lovely combination whether in the garden, a silver bowl of pink roses, or a baby with petal pink cheeks in the arms of a silver-haired grandmother, perhaps one such as the dear lady pictured in this magazine for Nov.-Dec. 1962. (Ed. note: Miss Sessions.)

It is a joy to plan and plant such a garden. An experiment with perhaps some surprises, some disappointments, but always a joy.

*A garden of flowers brings peace to the soul
Can help ease your worry and care,
As each morning new flower faces appear
Lightly perfuming the air.

*From a group of verses by the author: "Books, Flowers, Kittens and Cats."

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by L. H. and ETHEL ZOE BAILEY
MacMillan 1947

Eugenia

Tropical and semi-tropical evergreen bushes and trees in many parts of the world and of very many species, in the western hemisphere native as far north as Southern Florida: leaves opposite, simple, mostly firm and glossy; flowers commonly white, cream-colored or purple, solitary racemose or paniculate, the stamens numerous and conspicuous; fruit a drupe-like yellow, red, purple or black berry, sometimes edible.

Eugenias are grown in Florida, California and similar climates for the ornamental habit, foliage, flowers and berries, and some kinds for the eatable fruits. They are of simple requirements, propagating by means of seeds, and by cuttings on a bench or in a frame. In California, *E. paniculata* and its variety are much planted, and in Florida also; the young growths are red-brown and showy, the winter color often brilliant; there is a form with variegated leaves.

Loquat

Evergreen broad-leaved tree (*Eriobotrya japonica*) of China and Japan sometimes seen as an ornamental pot subject under glass but grown in California, the lower Gulf regions and Florida for its yellow oblong pyriform to spherical acid fruits that are eaten raw or in jellies, jams, pies, and preserves. The fruits attain to a length of 3 inches in large varieties. The fragrant white panicled flowers appear in autumn, followed by ripe fruits in spring. The trees attain to a height of 25 feet. In orchard formation they may be set 20 to 24 feet apart either way. The requirements are not peculiar. In northern Florida and similar regions frost may limit fruitfulness some seasons. For best results improved varieties should be grown, being budded on seedling stocks; but as commonly seen in yards the trees are unimproved seedlings.

THOUGHTS ON JELLIES
Eugenia and Loquat
by Jean R. Klauber

Some years ago my young son complained that if the birds enjoyed the eugenia berries so much, why didn't we? And since I had been distressed at the mess they made when they fell, I suggested that he pick the fruit and I'd see what I could do.

After some years of experimenting, these are my suggestions:

When the fruit is washed and stemmed and all green berries removed, put it in a large pot with about a cup or two of water and bring to a boil. When the skins pop, put the fruit in a bag and squeeze the juice through a sieve.

To 3½ cups of eugenia juice, add 7 cups of sugar and have ready ½ cup of strained lemon juice to add at the last minute.

One has a choice of making jellies with or without commercial pectin like Certo. I have found that the addition of a half bottle of pectin to the recipe above is quicker and easier and makes a fine jelly with a delicate flavor. Further directions accompany the pectin.

Loquats

Loquats make a fine spread. It's neither a jam nor a jelly, but somewhere in between.

Pick the fruit before it is over-ripe and bird-pecked. Cut off the black tip when you wash it, since not doing so will leave your jelly peppered with tiny black spots. Throw seeds and all into the pot, add a little water and bring to a boil. Put it through a sieve and crush if you wish to get some pulp.

To 4 cups fruit add 7½ cups of sugar and ¼ cup lemon juice. A half bottle of pectin will bring you a quick conclusion following the directions which accompany.

"And if you want to know about Kumquat," she laughed, "you must call Alice Heyneman because she kumquats."

(Ed. note: Trying to find Alice Heyneman.)

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A Calendar of Care

☐ CAMELLIAS

Grafting and flower shows are the order of the day.

The next thirty days make the ideal time to get your new grafts made. While it can be carried into the month of March, we find the early work seems to promote the more vigorous grafts. Your selection of good strong clean understock showing rich green color of foliage and proportionate vigor in growth usually indicates a good root system.

For my own, the gallon-can size containers with plants having ½" to ⅝" caliper are my preference. Of course, where one has larger plants grown in egg cans or redwood containers, grafts will attain a "hurry up growth" that is surprising, and which after a second year is apt to be doing its duty with buds and flowers. Be careful not to have your root stock too wet *when* grafting, and keep new grafts out of heavy rains if possible *after* grafting. *Water very lightly* for quite sometime after the graft has taken. *Use no fertilizer* for the first season.

The camellia shows are now in progress: one each week from February 8th through March 15th. This is a good time to study and enjoy the new varieties as well as your old favorites. Several new innovations are being presented, particularly the interest centered on flowers that have been treated with Gibberellic Acid. Worthwhile lessons can be learned at the shows on form, color, foliage, and growing methods. Another helpful avenue is to visit some of your grower's collections on the home grounds. They will enjoy your interest and you in turn may gain much that can help you by comparing ideas. This is where the bond of friendship also grows.

Harvey Short
S. D. Camellia Society

☐ ROSES

The Spring Show of the San Diego Rose Society will be held in the Electric Building, Balboa Park on the 11th and 12th of April. Entries will be received from 7 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday and the exhibit will be open to the public from 2 to 9 on Saturday and from 10 to 6 on Sunday.

Anyone interested in exhibiting is asked to write for a program. The Show Chairman is Mrs. Carolyn Buman, 3304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. San Diego 17.

The Society meets in the Floral Building at 8 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Everyone interested in roses is cordially invited to attend.

* * *

In your rose garden, at this point you should have pruned all except the ramblers and old-fashioned climbers. Those are better left until after the spring blooming period. Consult "Doc" Thompson's Pruning Guide or past issues of this column for detailed directions. If you haven't pruned, don't put it off any longer.

The next thing to do is to remove all old mulch, weeds, leaves and other debris from your rose bed and have it hauled away, or use it in some part of the garden away from the roses. Then, if you can, get a pH kit and measure the soil pH at several locations. If you have been fertilizing and mulching properly it should be between 5 and 7. If the pH is higher than about 6.8, scatter some gypsum and soil sulfur: about one cupful of each for every square yard. If the pH is between 5.8 and 6.8 use only the sulfur. If it is more acid than 5.8, omit both.

Before putting on new mulch, spray the bare branches and soil with a good

fungicide and insecticide, but use half strength and do it several days in succession. Then spread the new mulch (wood chips are best in this locality) and you are ready for the coming year.

It is getting late for bare-root planting, but there are a few days left if you have a prepared spot and get busy promptly. There are several very excellent varieties available. You should ask particularly for 'Granada' and 'Saratoga.' Both of these are All America Rose Selections for 1964. The first is a multi-colored hybrid tea which is very vigorous and floriferous. The blooms look like dancing flames and will be your favorite if you get it.

'Saratoga' is a clear white floribunda of modest growth and of hybrid tea shape. It is virtually trouble free.

A rose of particular interest is 'Williamsburg.' This is a big vigorous plant, trouble-free, and bears lots of big fragrant shell pink peony-like blooms. A test-bed of this variety has been attracting rose lovers to Exposition Park in Los Angeles for several years. It can be obtained from Paul J. Howard's California Flowerland 11700 National Blvd., Los Angeles 64. Others of special note available this year are 'Rose Gaujard,' 'World's Fair Salute,' and 'Olé.'

Your fresh spring growth and perfect spring blooms must be protected with a regular spray program. Use Acti-Dione PM about quarter strength about once a week and a good insecticide mixture two or three times a a month, but not mixed with Acti-Dione.

If you want to have a really beautiful rose garden, wash down the leaves every few days with a very dilute spray of a good soluble nutrient mixture such as the new Country Squire Rose Food. Roses take a lot of water, too. Flood the beds with the equivalent of about an inch of water every week or so.

Roses are hardy and will stand a lot of abuse. On the other hand, they will respond to care and consideration such that roses grown by a careful rosarian are entirely different from those in an ordinarily neglected average garden. Try to be a careful rosarian yourself for a year and you will be rewarded with blooms as you have never grown before.

Let's all resolve to learn more about roses in '64.

Dr. Donald A. Wilson
Pres. San Diego Rose Society

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☐ FUCHSIAS

February brings the beginning of Spring to Southern California, and that means increased interest and activity in the garden for the Fuchsia Fancier.

What is done first and how much will best be determined by the needs of the plants and weather conditions. Our dry, mild winter has caused many growers to try pruning so early this season, that plants may be badly damaged by late frosts. Too early removal of mulching followed by heavy feeding for early bloom, may result in die-back of lush tender growth before all danger of killing frost is past.

In San Diego there is an amazing difference of frost damage in locations sometimes only a few hundred feet apart which often fools gardeners not familiar with this area. Fall pruning, when the sap is going down and there is no frost danger, therefore, is much safer for the new gardener. Most people still prune in the Spring, however, and in this section, middle or late February is considered safe from serious frost damage unless the garden is very low and cold.

Fuchsias are able to stand drastic pruning and should be cut back always with an eye to the ultimate shape for their type, function, and place in the garden. Once properly shaped as bush, tree, basket, espalier, background or border, they should be cut back each time to three or four nodes of new growth. Since blooms come on new growth only, this will insure a wealth of bloom if properly fed and cared for. Baskets should be cut back close to the edge, using sharp shears, and making diagonal cuts just beyond a node each time.

Repot container plants after 2 years at most using metal liners to conserve moisture especially in baskets or porous material.

As Fuchsia plants come out of winter dormancy, new soil of leaf mold and cow manure, may be worked in around them. Two or three weeks later, apply a good commercial fertilizer. Regular feeding of a fish emulsion plant food, (such as Blue Whale) should be given about every three weeks, starting 3 or 4 weeks after the application of the commercial fertilizer.

Continued next page

☐ FUCHSIAS

Continued from page 24

Watering will have been increased gradually as the season advances with special attention to unsuspected dryness particularly in container plants. Remember that fog or light showers wet only the air, and not the soil, in our gardens.

A good time to make cuttings for propagation of new stock from your favorite varieties is when pruning. Tip cuttings, from vigorous thrifty plants, of new growth about 3 or 4 inches long are best. Press the cut end down firmly to the depth of two nodes into very moist sharp sand in the starting flat, and place the flat in a nook protected from drafts, direct sun, or much change in temperature. Sometimes a little fine leaf mold is mixed in the sand for the casual gardener who may forget when to transplant. Some like to dip the cuttings in Rootone before starting. They will root in 3 or 4 weeks nicely if flats are in a warm protected place.

The exchange of cuttings with garden friends is interesting and profitable. Potting the transplants in a good planting mixture is easy and rewarding enough to delight the amateur gardener. If their ease of propagation doesn't win him, their startling bright colors and fairylike beauty when they come in bloom, certainly will.

Morrison W. Doty
San Diego Fuchsia Society

IRIS SHOW

The Southern California Iris Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society will present the 1964 Annual Iris Show at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia on April 25th and 26th.

Citizens Coordinate

Through education, publicity, appearance at hearings, or working as individuals in small groups, CITIZENS COORDINATE is a constructive force for protecting San Diego's priceless assets. It is devoted to building a better community: Canyon Preservation, Billboard Legislation, and Urban Design are among its concerns. Join. Membership $6.00.

Dorothea Edmiston, Chairman
3631 Fifth Avenue
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☐ CACTUS

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society enjoyed a trip to the Huntington Botanical Gardens located at San Marino near Pasadena. This outing was a reward the Society awarded itself for having won first prize money at the Del Mar County Fair.

The Library, Art Gallery, and Botanical Gardens, together with an endowment for their maintenance, were the gift of Henry Edwards Huntington. In 1928, the exhibitions were opened to the public. Mr. Huntington, it seems, was reluctant to include a cactus garden, having at one time, while on location at one of his railroads in Arizona, backed into a cactus. But he was persuaded by Mr. Hertrich, who suggested that cactus and succulents would be ideal for a certain gravelly area not suitable for other plants.

At the entrance pavilion, you may buy the booklet, "A Guide to the Desert Plant Collection" by William Hertrich. The author was Curator Emeritus for many years and is now retired. This booklet delineates the garden and explains in general terms the relation of the Cactus and Succulent families.

Starting down the hill to the garden you are soon in another world: a world of *Aloe, Agave* and *Mammillaria,* of *Euphorbia* and *Puya;* in a world transplanted from Arizona, Mexico, South America, and Africa.

A panorama of sweeping scope lies before you, a vision of spectacular mature plants, some grotesque, some comical, some beautiful — all interesting. Interesting because of the individual characteristics of growth structure each cactus and succulent has.

Close to the ground you see the *Aloe Petricola,* a rosette of grey green pointed leaves. Your attention is drawn to the healthy looking *Agave attenuata,* whose very size is imposing with its clusters of wide wavy green leaves. You see a night blooming *Cereus* climbing crisscross up a Palm tree, 25 feet high. Farther down the path is the tree-like *Aloe Pienaari* with its thick leathery leaves.

For contrast there is the almost Christmas-like *Euphorbia grandicornis* with its four-sided spiny outline, and the *Euphorbia splendens* with its ornamental tiny red flowers. One of the rare plants of this family there is the *Euphorbia lophogona x Bojeri* which has pink flowers instead of red flowers. The ground is covered with orange-tinged *Sedum,* green *Crassula,* and red-tipped *Echeveria.* Also planted as a ground cover is *Portulacaria* with its tiny green leaves on red, red stems.

You look up to see the tall *Cephalocereus* in the background, and the giant *Cereus Huntingtonianus.* One of the biggest plants in the garden is the *Cereus xanthocarpus,* 25 feet tall with a base five feet in diameter. And taller yet are the tree-like *Yucca australis* planted in the valley below.

You pass by *Opuntias* with the red violet flowered *Portulaca* growing near by, pass mounds of greyish white *Mammillaria,* pass little pin cushions, *Malacocarpus Sellowie,* each with a perky yellow flower for a crown.

Eye catching is the *Crassula falcata,* for when in bloom, its vivid Chinese red flowers glow against the somber grey green colors about them.

The desert plants alone cover 10 acres. There are 25,000 plants and 2,500 different species of cactus and succulents most of which are native to the Western Hemisphere. The galleries and gardens are open to the public free from 1 to 4:30 p.m. except Monday and certain holidays. Don't let anything keep you from enjoying this garden.

Helen Marie Steger
San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

ON THE OCCASION
OF READING
GEORGE LINDSAY'S
"CACTI OF
SAN DIEGO COUNTY"
AN OCCASIONAL PAPER OF
THE SAN DIEGO SOCIETY
OF NATURAL HISTORY,
MAY 1963 which begins:

"A cactus has been defined as a
'truculent succulent'."

It really does stab us
To learn that a cactus
A truculent succulent is.

Though cacti are succulents
Some succulents decry
That ever they'd classify as cacti

A succulent sips water
and loosely reclines;
But cactus is hotter
And watches with spines.

JHR

Continued from page 12

able to subsist with much of their natural habitat gone. We buy 200 to 300 pounds of Parakeet seed each month for our resident birds, and have water and suet out at all times. Our bug population is negative and we spray very seldom with hand sprays.

Several years ago it was my privilege to work with Milton Rosen, State Parasitologist, on tricomoniasis, a disease which was wiping out the Dove population and was of grave concern to the San Diego Zoo. The parasite is transmitted through the female dove when she is feeding her young. It infects the throat and is a fatal lingering death for birds. On several occasions Mr. Rosen and two assistants and myself worked Saturdays weighing enheptin, the specific for the disease, filling tiny capsules. The doves were trapped and the capsules administered where they could be saved. The State of California furnished people in the areas affected with a special grain impregnated with this drug. In two years it seems to be cleared. There have been occasional flare-ups, but the medication placed in bird baths has seemed to keep it in hand. Where a concerted effort is made, birds can be saved. Surely the pleasure they give, and the bugs they consume, are more than worth the effort.

At present we have a family of grey fox who come promptly at 7:30 for tid-bits. I am making arrangements with the Wild Life Service to trap them and take them "where they can make their own living," as the captain of the local Wild Life Office stated it. He said they were valuable in keeping down rodent population, and I said they were too beautiful to be put to sleep, so we agreed on two counts.

Not long ago we caught a Skunk in a Have-A-Heart Trap. He was a big chap and beautiful. The problem was how to extract him without causing him to let go, so to speak. With a pronged weeder my husband held up the door entrance and I opened the door and put a brick under it. Mr. Skunk remained. He would not go forward. Finally after breakfast we decided to live dangerously, and the same procedure was followed at the business end of Senor. We retreated fast, sat at the window and watched. In about 15 minutes out stalked Mr. Skunk and made a dive for a nearby bush. That evening as we were dining, we looked up to find the Skunk trying to get back in the trap where there was food. He now stops by for a handout.

Our garden is planted to natives to a great extent. We had the privilege of having Theodore Payne lay it out for us. Among our specifications was the need for shrubs that would serve as feed for wild birds. During the severe winter some years ago we were hosts one morning to 400 feet of Robins and a half mile of Cedar Waxwings. In four days they stripped our pyracantha bushes, Catalina Cherry, and Toyon, and gave us memories we will cherish always. There are few birds more endearing or beautiful than Cedar Waxwings. For the past two years we have not had them and before that for several years their number was small.

"Man cannot live by bread alone." It is an old saying and a really true one, I believe. It is my firm belief that the wanton destruction of our birds and wild life, whether from spray, stream pollution, or loss of natural habitat, is a grave problem and one that all people should work together to solve. I believe that Rachael Carson has done a wonderful thing in arousing the public to the dangers present in pesticides to animals, birds, and humans.

God bless her.

☐ DAHLIAS

Gardeners who want to grow dahlias will have fewer disappointments if they know a little about this spectacular satisfying flower.

Whether one wants a few plants in a small bed or dozens of them, he has a mental picture of what he aspires to before he obtains the seed or roots. To fill in the picture, a few specifics are required.

If he wants calendulas he has a pretty good idea what they are going to look like, the color and the size. Much the same is true for asters, daisies, etc.

But dahlias—: they come in several sizes and several types. Some of them have plants of only 2 feet tall or so, and others may be 5 feet or more. And colors: Dahlias come in all colors and shades and blends, except blue.

To grow small flowers one must plant roots of the small varieties, and for large flowers, roots of the large varieties.

Dahlia seeds don't come true, either for size, type or color. But once a variety is established its roots grow the same flowers from planting to planting.

That's why dahlia growers learn variety names and plant only those.

It's the same with dahlias as with roses; if you want a Herbert Hoover or Peace rose, you plant a Herbert Hoover or Peace.

Almost all flower catalogs offer dahlia roots by name. They also describe the size, type, and color. Catalogs of the dahlia specialists offer a wider selection of name varieties, especially of the newer ones.

So, if you want dahlias, it is a good idea to start with a catalog. From it you can match up your picture with the approximate ingredients.

The dahlia seed offered in most miscellaneous catalogs are for the small bedding varieties. Although they produce a wealth of colorful flowers they are not very satisfactory as cutflowers and are of no value for exhibition; the stems are short and weak, and the blooms lack form.

Seed obtained from dahlia specialists and possibly from amateur dahlia hobbyists would be more satisfying, because they would be seed of exhibition varieties.

Each seed makes a new variety. By planting a few seeds along with his roots, the dahlia grower adds to his fun by anticipating a chance world-beater when the seedlings bloom.

Even in the San Diego area it is a little early to plant dahlia roots. Seed may be started now, and until May and June. The seed should be started in flats of any standard planting medium.

As soon as the little seedlings develop a pair of leaves, lift them into 4-inch pots. Plant them out in the garden when they have three or four sets of leaves. By then the ground will have warmed up so that they will thrive with average care.

Although dahlia roots also can be started in pots or flats and kept indoors or protected, the best time to plant is after the ground feels warm to the touch after it is turned. That is the latter part of March at the earliest.

Better growth comes if dahlia roots are planted about mid-April or after.

Growers who plan to exhibit dahlias at the fair start their roots early, and plant them out during the latter half of March. To obtain blooms for the Balboa Park dahlia show, Aug. 1 and 2, roots of large varieties should be planted about April 10, and of the mediums, miniatures, and pompons, from April 20 to May 10.

The large varieties require 100 to 115 days from planting to bloom, mediums about 90 days, miniatures about 75, and poms about 60.

Larry Sisk
San Diego County Dahlia Society

☐ BEGONIAS

Begonia care seems to vary from day to day this winter. The weather has been tricky and unpredictable.

Unfortunately, we had a few days of spring weather, two months before our severest weather. The warm days encouraged new growth and then the biting cold days were with us. This confuses begonias as much as it confuses we humans.

The best advice is to let the begonias enjoy as much sun and warmth as possible during the day, but to give them overhead protection during anticipated cold nights.

"Protection" may be in several forms. One successful grower used light weight plastic sheets bought from paint or automobile accessory stores. She placed them over the plants each afternoon about 4 p.m. and removed them in the morning, before the sun hit those particular plants. As rumor has it — the frosts come from above — it is quite possible any covering would suffice. (Paper, light weight cloths, etc.)

One danger to watch for is rain, after the coverings have been placed. Rain beating down on sheets of plastic, newspapers, or such, can become so heavy that it breaks the very plants intended to be protected.

A frost is not in force, while it is raining, but it can follow a rain. Growers of tender plants will have to use common sense and elbow grease, to protect the less-than-hardy types of plants, which include begonias.

Be sure that all begonias enjoy excellent drainage during the damp periods.

Dorothy S. Behrends
A. D. Robinson Begonia Society

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BOOK TOURS

Conducted by Alice Mary Greer

Using Plants for Healing. Nelson Coon, Hearthside Press. 272 pages. $1.95.

Nelson Coon, author of the popular *Wayside Plants,* writes very authoritatively in this, his latest book. He is a professional horticultural writer, teacher, lecturer in the New England area, past-president of the New England Botanical Club, curator of the famed Perkins School for the Blind. Popular interest in certain chapters of the earlier book resulted in his writing *Using Plants for Healing,* and in sharing his enthusiasm with his readers.

Fascinating to the horticulturist is this book, for it is alive with pertinent information about our everyday garden companions; fascinating to the artist for it prints old woodcuts, illustrations from early printed herbals (Venice 1471 etc.), and line drawings secured or drawn by the author especially for this book. The line illustrations are intended partly for illustration, but mostly as a reminder of some of the characteristics of leaf and flower; fascinating to the organic gardener, to the herb grower, to those who deplore the indiscriminate use of chemicals, to those who just enjoy armchair reading. We understand that the drug companies are gambling five million dollars this year in search of healing plants. These companies and every library should find *Using Plants for Healing* a must.

Because the range of plants mentioned is selective, the author does not write a medical encyclopedia, nor does he write prescriptions for any disease. Instead, he gives a brief history and general introduction to herbal medicine; a practical guide to the use and preparation of remedies and a three-way reference for the recognition of herbs and their medicinal properties; a glossary, which comments on herbal treatment; a list of specific plants used in treatment of these conditions; a discussion and illustration for each of the plants.

Nelson Coon holds a very modern and sane view on the relationship of mind and body. In describing the rites practiced in past ages and those practiced today in many remote places he writes: "We might see in them the original merger of medicine, religion, and herbal remedies to help us put these three in proper relationship today. Taking advantage of modern medical knowledge, it would seem sensible to use inorganic chemicals reinforced by organic plants, science and nature thereby working together as allies." He suggests that popular reliance on herbal medicine stems partly from our observation that wild and domestic animals use them instinctively.

He maintains that modern herbal doctors are eager to cooperate with the more orthodox physicians. Although many doctors and laymen ally herbalism with superstition, nevertheless, plant medicines are having a tremendous revival today and a far greater acceptance than would have been thought possible a generation ago. He writes, "The return to plant-based drugs has been slow but inevitable." In recent decades Rauwolfia and an extraction from the periwinkle plant, widely used in treating Hodgkins disease may arrest leukemia, according to the report of pharmaceutical scientists at the April 1962 meeting of the American Association of Cancer Research.

Inasmuch as the freshness of herbs is related to their potency, as is also the time of the year when each plant or plant part is gathered and processed, the author writes an interesting chapter on the collecting, drying, and storing for medical use. He points out that there are identifiable differences between plants gathered in the wild where they grow in the natural humus of the woods, and those same plants transplanted and grown in a garden with chemical fertilizers.

Actually the method of drying is a matter of first importance; the quicker the drying takes place the more one conserves the properties. In olden days it was the habit to tie herbs in bunches and hang them to dry in a hot dry attic. Today, this involves the building of an herb drier, as elaborate or expensive as seems possible. The author gives detailed instructions for building such driers. When plant materials are dry, they are stored in ground-glass, stoppered or otherwise air-tight containers to prevent moisture and mildew.

Why are compounds more effective than simple drugs? A combination of plants, each having the same effect, increases the active power of the total remedy and often makes the medicine more acceptable by altering the appearance or taste. We find that the medicine preparations come in a variety of types of prescriptions and for a wide variety of physical anomalies.

This book concludes with a glossary dealing very pleasingly with a specialized vocabulary discussion; with two chapters discussing medicinal plants according to scientific names, and an easily read chapter dealing with the uses of medicine in the house and garden. It is the purpose of the author to bring to our attention many *wild* medicinal plants generally found in America. But what in the way of curative medicine can one find in the kitchen garden or home orchard? Carrots—carotin for preventing night blindness; black currants and honey as a throat lubricant; figs as a laxative, and on and on.

This exhaustive work ends with a good bibliography, and three indices, one of scientific names, one of common names, and one of plant values.

An Easy Guide to Japanese Flower Arrangement Styles. Lida Webb, Hearthside Press, New York, 1963. 159 pages. $3.95.

Many books on Ikebana explain the methods and techniques of one or two masters, but so tremendous is the interest in Oriental art today, that Lida Webb sees fit to present a guide to six schools or masters that are adaptable to American taste and have the widest appeal. Whether or not this is an advantage over a more selective treatment, is for you to decide.

She writes, "The work of any school of Japanese flower arrangement can be understood and mastered if one has a sound knowledge of the basic rules of the old Ikenobo Flower Cult and has learned through personal experience the lessons that living, growing things can teach."

The text seems uninteresting, redundant, and at times, insistent. Of course Ikenobo art always is insistent. It is more than plentifully illustrated with cuts, drawings, and pictures. However, the book does not incite zest, perhaps because the market at present is flooded with books on Japanese flower arrangement, many of them of inferior value.

GOTTSCHO-SCHLEISNER

Soil and Plant Analyses: A Practical Guide for the Home Gardener. Milton Morris. Milton Morris Publications, Orinda, California, 1963.

A 14 page pamphlet, hand-lettered, illustrated and arranged so artistically and with such a "bounce" that the mundane effect usually resulting from the consideration of soil and its kindred subjects is here offset by humor and good spirits. The little treasure is dedicated "to the proposition that it is as unlikely for an all purpose fertilizer to cure your sick plants as for an all purpose medication to cure all your illnesses."

Nothing much in the field will change as the result of this publication, but the reader will be less frustrated and a few pennies richer. "Use the facts before buying the sacks," the author recommends. You in your garden task may be grappling with what is essentially a research problem, but results are likely after obtaining laboratory and related data and getting it into the hands of experts.

Problems or no problems this attractive little treatise will afford you a few hours fun.

Fruit and Vegetable Arrangements, Revised. Emma Hodkinson Cyphers, Hearthside Press, New York, 1961. 124 pages. $3.95.

We welcome another in the long list of Emma Cyphers works on the subject of flower arrangement and allied fields. Here she gives step-by-step advice on selecting materials and combining them with emphasis upon form, texture, hue. She treats of the many mechanics so necessary for success: wiring, preserving, shellacking, storing, selecting.

Although the volume does not present an alluring format, true of many of the Cyphers' series, it is reasonably priced, so perhaps pays off from that angle. The book fairly bursts with illustrations in color and in black and white.

"A potato, even a handsome apple," writes Cyphers, "may not inspire a sonnet, but don't let this prevent you from seeing and enjoying the porcelain glaze of eggplant, the patterned jade of a stem of Brussels sprouts, the crowned and satin loveliness of persimmons. Close your mind to any kitchen complex and be inspired by the inherent beauty of these familiar forms that are destined for food."

So inclusive is the text that all aspects of art arrangement are handled: principles, elements, techniques, decorations for homes, for shows, for special occasions, a glossary of fruits, vegetables and grains. She pleasingly emphasizes throughout her book the uses of grains in arrangements.

This is another worthwhile book for either the professional or amateur.

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LIST OF PLANT TOURS

Since 1960, CALIFORNIA GARDEN has published a series of plant tours written by Chauncy I. Jerabek, retired horticulturist for the City of San Diego. These were done descriptively so that one might take the article and walk or drive himself along an indicated route and have at hand the identification of all the interesting plant material in sight.

Many of these tours have been illustrated with plant sketches and maps by Alice M. Clark.

Below is the list of the tours and the issues in which the article appeared. Most issues are available at .50 from the Floral Association Building in Balboa Park which is open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 to 3 p.m. Telephone 232-5762.

TOURS BY JERABEK

1. The Wattle Family, Spring, 1960.
2. Trees for Color (Flowering Trees), Summer, 1960.
3. Deciduous Trees, Autumn, 1960.
4. Old Favorites (Flowering Trees), April-May, 1961.
5. Plant Tour Presidio Park, June-July, 1961.
6. Spectaculars of the Tree World, Oct.-Nov., 1961.
7. The Vines of Coronado, April-May, 1962.
8. Plant Life of Quail Park, June-July, 1962.
9. Plant Tour of S.D. Zoo I, Aug.-Sept., 1962.
   Plant Tour of S. D. Zoo II, Oct.-Nov. 1962.
   Plant Tour of S.D. Zoo III, August, 1963.
   Plant Tour of S.D. Zoo IV, October, 1963.
10. Conifer Caravan, December, 1963.

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CROWN GARDEN CLUB OF CORONADO
Fourth Thursday, Red Cross Bldg., 1113
Adella Lane, 9:30 a.m.
Pres.: Mrs. James P. Coleman 435-8602
1020 Encino Row, Coronado, Calif.

DELCADIA GARDEN CLUB
First Wednesday, Encinitas Union
Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Edwin C. Pickett 753-3890
1068 Devonshire, Encinitas

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB (PAUMA VLY.)
Second Tues., Members Homes, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. J. C. Potter 745-0302
Valley Center

ESCONDIDO GARDEN CLUB
Third Fri., Women's Club House, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Leonard H. Cooper 744-0550
1011 W. Encinitas Rd., San Marcos

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BR. (BEGONIA)
2nd Sat., 1:30 p.m., Seacoast Hall, Encinitas
President: Walter Watchorn 722-3501
1450 Hunsaker, Oceanside

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Last Thurs., Fallbrook Woman's Club-
house, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Elmery Yocubets 728-2432
1040 N. Orange, Fallbrook

GROSSMONT GARDEN CENTER
Second Mon., Grossmont Center, 10 a.m.
Pres.: Mrs. L. E. Elson 469-8009
3451 Calavo Drive, Spring Valley

HIPS AND THORNS (Old Fashioned Roses)
Meets three times yearly.
Pres.: Roy C. Lawton 422-1775
719 First Ave., C.V.

IMPERIAL BEACH GARDEN CLUB
3rd Tues., So. Bay Com. Center, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Leonor Gish 424-7182
630 Alabama, Imperial Beach

LAKESIDE GARDEN CLUB
3rd Mon., Lakeside Farm School, 7:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. W. R. Kuhner 443-3163
P. O. Box 561, Lakeside

LA MESA WOMAN'S CLUB (GARDEN SEC.)
Third Thursday, La Mesa Woman's Club,
1:45 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. J. Holland Noel 463-6795
8415 Kappa St., La Mesa

LEMON GROVE WOMAN'S CLUB
(GARDEN SECTION)
First Tuesday, Lemon Grove Woman's
Club House, 1 p.m.
Chairman: Mrs. O. R. Patterson
8396 Golden, Lemon Grove 466-5242

NATIONAL CITY GARDEN CLUB
Third Wednesday, National City
Community Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
President: Henry Dell 284-7346
4912 Mansfield, S. D. 16

O. C. IT GROW GARDEN CLUB
Second Wednesday, S. Oceanside
School Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. James E. Flynn 722-3509
1809 So. Horne St., Oceanside, Calif.

PACIFIC BEACH GARDEN CLUB
Meet second Monday. 7:30 p.m.
Community Club House, Gresham
and Diamond Sts., Pacific Beach
Pres.: Mrs. Ethel Hansen 273-3501
3504 Ethan Allen, S.D. 17

POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Second Wed., 9:30 a.m. Members Homes
Pres.: Mrs. Wm. C. Crosjean 748-3464
13821 Savage Way, Poway

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
Second Tuesday — Club House, 2:00 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Neil J. Randol 756-1603
Rancho Santa Fe

SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
Fourth Tues., Homes of Members, 1 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Brandon J. Neal 465-2682
6702 Jackson Dr., San Diego 19

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB
Third Wednesday, Seacoast Savings
Building, Encinitas, 10 a.m.
President: Mrs. Waldo Vogt 755-4772
773 Barbara Ave., Solana Beach

SANTA MARIA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Second Monday, Ramona Women's
Club House, 5th and Main, 10 a.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Nelson R. Brown 789-1034
510 Fifth, Ramona

SPRINGHOUSE GARDEN CLUB
Third Thursday, Porter Hall, Univ. &
La Mesa, 7:30 p.m.
President: Mr. R. M. Frodahl 469-1933
3852 Avocado, La Mesa

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
First Fri., Vista Rec. Center, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. James Sorenson 724-1745
1655 Foothill, Vista

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